

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-10 (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) A cosmetic preparation containing

a metal-effect pigment of a metal substrate having a single layer encapsulating the substrate produced in the sol-gel process,

providing a barrier effect with respect to sweat and saliva and preventing direct contact between the human body and the metallic substrate,

said metal pigment being water-wettable;

wherein the single layer encapsulating the substrate consists essentially of SiO₂; and

wherein the silica particles generating the coating of the metal pigment have an average diameter of < 100 nm and the preparation feels accordingly smooth in its application.

12. (Previously Presented) A cosmetic preparation according to claim 11, wherein it is available in the form of a creme, a lotion, an eye shadow, a lipstick, a mascara, a gel, a make-up formulation, or a self-tanning creme or lotion.

Claim 13 (Cancelled).

14. (Previously Presented) A cosmetic preparation according to claim 11, wherein it imparts a uniform optical impression of the skin without changing the color of the skin.

15. (Previously Presented) A cosmetic preparation according to claim 11, wherein it evens out or covers up skin impurities.

16. (Previously Presented) A cosmetic preparation according to claims 11, wherein it contains a weight percentage of 0.2% to 40% of said metal pigment.

17. (Previously Presented) A cosmetic preparation according to claim 11, wherein it is a nail polish.

18. (Previously Presented) A cosmetic preparation according to claim 17, wherein it is based on nitrocellulose.

19. (Previously Presented) A cosmetic preparation as in any of the preceding claims, wherein it additionally contains benzotriazoles.

Claim 20 (Cancelled).

21. (Previously Presented) The cosmetic preparation of claim 16 wherein said weight percentage of metal pigment is 0.2 to 10%.

22. (Previously Presented) The cosmetic preparation of claim 16 wherein said weight percentage of metal pigment is 0.2 to 5%.